

Message Text

SECRET

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15

ACTION L-03

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 IO-13 ADP-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SS-15 RSC-01

COA-02 EB-11 PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00

CG-00 DOTE-00 OMB-01 TRSE-00 OIC-04 RSR-01 /091 W

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R 240753Z AUG 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1364

INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

USMISSION USUN NY

S E C R E T GENEVA 4555

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PBOR, UN

SUBJECT: LOS: LIAISON REPORT

1. AUSTRALIAN DELEGATE JOHN BAILY TO SEABEDS COMITE TOLD U.S. DELOFFS (LEITZELL AND NORDQUIST) THAT FORMER DEPUTY UNDER-SECSTATE, EUGENE ROSTOW, HAD MET EARLY JULY WITH ALL DIVISION HEADS OF MINEXTAF, DEPUTY SEC, AND BAILY. ROSTOW SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME DISCUSSING LOS, KNEW SUFFICIENT DETAIL ABOUT NEGOTIATIONS TO GIVE BAILY IMPRESSION THAT HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED IN WASHINGTON, AND INDICATED U.S. NOT ANXIOUS TO GO AHEAD WITH LOS CONF AT THIS TIME. (ROSTOW DID NOT ACTUALLY SAY HE HAD BEEN BRIEFED.) BAILY SAID HE AND OTHERS AT BRIEFING HAD DISTINCT IMPRESSION ROSTOW HAD BEEN BRIEFED ON THIS POINT AND WAS TRYING TO "FRIGHTEN" GOA BY INDICATING U.S. DID NOT WANT TO GO AHEAD. DELOFFS INSISTED U.S. POLICY THRU HIGHEST LEVELS FAVORED CONF AND BAILY WAS PLEASED AT REASSURANCE.

2. BAILEY SAID PM WHITLAM MAKING ALL LOS DECISIONS PERSONALLY AND CABINET NOT INVOLVED. HE SAID WHITHAM EXPECTED DISCUSSION OF LOS ISSUES IN WASHINGTON LAST MONTH AND WAS SURPRISED WHEN NOT RAISED BY U.S., ESPECIALLY BY K. RUSH SINCE IT WAS WHITLAM'S UNDERSTANDING RUST KNEW MUCH ABOUT LOS. IN ANY CASE, WHITLAM DESIRES HIGH LEVEL DISCUSSIONS WITH U.S. ON LOS ISSUES BEFORE

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LOS CONF.

3. BAILEY ACKNOWLEDGED INTERNAL PROBLEMS WITH MIN OF TRANS ON POLLUTION QUESTIONS BUT GOA POSITION GENERALLY PARALLELS CANADA. HOWEVER, THEIR OWN EXPANDING MARITIME FLEET, AND HEAVY DEPENDENCE ON MARITIME COMMERCE, MAKE THEM WANT EFFECTIVE SAFEGUARDS AGAINST UNREASONABLE COASTAL STATE STANDARDS. HE SUGGESTED SOLUTION MIGHT BE THROUGH PROCEDURES INVOLVING DISPUTE SETTLEMENT MECHANISM.

4. BAILEY NOTED WILLINGNESS TO HELP U.S. REACH ACCOMMODATION WITH INDONESIA ON ARCHIPELAGOES QUESTION BUT DID NOT WANT TO GET CAUGHT IN MIDDLE. HE NOTED MANY GOA DELEGATES WONDERED WHY, CONSIDERING GOOD RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PRES AND SUHARTO, U.S. HAD NOT DIRECTLY SETTLED ISSUE WITH INDONESIA BEFORE NOW.BASSIN

SECRET

NNN

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